

DFID Management Response to the Independent Commission for Aid Impact recommendations on:

How DFID works with multilateral agencies to achieve impact, June 2015

ICAI Recommendation	Accept/Partially Accept/Reject	Action already taken	Action to be taken	Target date
<p>Recommendation 1: DFID should have a strategy for its engagement with the multilateral system as a whole at the global level.</p>	<p>Reject</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DFID has a strategic approach to multilaterals; this is set out in the Multilateral Aid Review (MAR) and will be updated through the MAR process later this year as planned. 		
<p>Recommendation 2: DFID needs clear objectives for its work with the multilateral system in its country-level strategies.</p>	<p>Reject</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country operational plans set out DFID's three year country level strategy. They currently include information about how country offices work with key multilaterals on delivery of DFID country objectives. 		
<p>Recommendation 3: DFID should address the low proportion and limited seniority of its core staff resources</p>	<p>Reject</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff throughout DFID work on multilateral business, not just those in multilateral departments. In addition to headquarters staff, there are senior staff working in UK 		

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devoted to managing its relationships with multilateral agencies.		<p>delegations and representations (e.g. New York, Geneva and Brussels), within multilaterals (e.g.in World Bank Group) and staff within DFID country offices work closely with multilateral organisations as a core part of their business.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFID has substantial senior engagement with multilaterals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Through regular working relationships in delegations to the UN, our representation to the EU, in the Global Funds and the Executive Offices of the Development Banks ○ At replenishment and Board meetings ○ Through Director General level engagement with organisations, including through portfolio reviews of key UN agencies 		
Recommendation 4:	Partially Accept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFID has been pressing for greater transparency and accountability of 	1. DFID will continue to	April 2016

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DFID should continue to press for greater transparency and accountability of multilaterals		multilaterals through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging multilaterals to publish development information in accordance with the International Aid Transparency Initiative • Promoting the development of results frameworks • The Multilateral Aid Review which included transparency and accountability as one of its assessment criteria and provides a comprehensive overview of the strengths and weaknesses of the multilaterals that DFID works with 	press for greater transparency and accountability of multilaterals, including through the new MAR	
Recommendation 5: DFID should promote more integrated working amongst multilateral institutions at country level.	Accept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFID promotes cooperation amongst delivery partners' in the countries where we have offices, under the leadership of the country's government and in line with the Paris principles on aid effectiveness. We have promoted strong collaboration in the humanitarian sector for example using multi-donor trust funds such as CERF and progress on initiatives such as One UN. 	1. DFID will continue to support better donor coordination; we will collect examples of effective integrated working and share the lessons from these examples across the country network.	April 2016

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<p>Recommendation 6 DFID should work more collaboratively with other bilaterals in its engagement with multilateral agencies</p>	Reject	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We do work closely with other bilateral donors at an institutional level and in country. We are active in multilateral donor networks: we were part of the effort to strengthen MOPAN, we set up the Senior Level Donor Meeting and are participants in the Utstein and Geneva groups. • We intend to remain an active member of MOPAN, and work with the Network on the assessments undertaken through the new improved MOPAN process. • We also work closely with other donors on issues relating to particular groups of multilaterals. • For example there is effective collaboration in Geneva on the humanitarian agencies and on the preparations for the World Humanitarian summit, with other EU member states in Brussels, with UN donors in New York, alongside donor coordination meetings and great engagement at Board and committee 		

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		level with other donors across all the global funds.		
<p>Recommendation 7 DFID should communicate more effectively to taxpayers about the role, impact and importance of multilaterals.</p>	Partially Accept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFID already communicates effectively with taxpayers about multilaterals. We have put more information into the public domain about multilaterals through for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Development Tracker • The MAR 2011 and update in 2013 which provided a comprehensive view of the organisations we fund • Increased statistical information about multilateral funding in our national statistics publication • Regular press briefings and the use of social media to explain the role and impact of our multilateral relationships 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DFID will work with multilaterals to increase their engagement with UK media and provide strong case studies explaining the impact of their programmes. We will do more to share stories and content. We will take stock of this work in December 2015 	December 2015